

App. No. 10/708,758
Amendment dated February 27, 2006
Reply to Office action of October 27, 2005

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached drawing sheets comprise a sheet containing Fig. 1 and a sheet containing Fig. 4, replacing the original sheets containing Figs. 1 and 4, and a sheet that adds a new drawing, Fig. 6.

In Fig. 1, reference numeral "46" has been added. In Fig. 4, the legend "Prior Art" has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets
Annotated Sheets Showing Changes
New Sheet

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REMARKS

Summary of Amendments

In the specification, paragraphs [0027], [0028], [0045], [0056] and [0068] (which respectively are numbered [0026], [0027], [0043], [0054] and [0066/0067] in the PTO publication of this application, Pub. No. 2004/0165797) have been amended. Paragraphs [0045] and [0056] have been amended to correct the deficiencies pointed out in the Office action. Paragraph [0068] has been amended at applicants' initiative, to correct a deficiency not pointed out by the Examiner. That is, to satisfy the relation $\theta_1 > \theta_2$, it would be impossible for θ_1 to equal 0, and since θ_2 cannot be 90° , the angles have been corrected.

In turn, to accord with this correction to the recited range of values of θ_1 and θ_2 , and to address the § 112 rejections made in the Office action, claims 1, 13 and 16 have been amended, and claims 3, 15 and 18 have been cancelled.

Further, new paragraph [0028.1] has been added to the brief description of the drawings, to describe new Fig. 6, which has been added by the present amendment.

Drawings

The drawing replacement sheets attached to this paper correct Fig. 1 by adding reference numeral "46," which, as pointed out by the Examiner, was missing from the figure although mentioned in the present specification. The replacement sheets also correct Fig. 4 by addition of the legend "Prior art," as required by the Examiner.

It is noted that Applicants' amendment of paragraph [0056] has rendered moot the objection to Fig. 1 as not showing reference numeral "4c."

In addition, a new drawing, Fig. 6, has been added at Applicants' initiative, to illustrate the subject matter of claims 9 through 12. Fig. 6 is being submitted in the belief that this subject matter "admits of illustration by a drawing without its being necessary for the understanding of the subject matter," (37 C.F.R. § 1.81(c)), and that Fig. 6 is *not* for supplementing the original disclosure of the subject matter of claims 9-12 "for the purpose of the interpretation of the scope" (37 C.F.R. § 1.81(d)) of these claims.

Indeed, it is believed that at least paragraph [0073] of the original disclosure provided adequate support for the subject matter of claims 9 through 12, and that this paragraph has been amended only to accord with new Fig. 6, which has been added because the subject matter discussed in this paragraph "admits of illustration by a drawing."

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Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 13 and 16 were rejected for indefiniteness due to the parenthetical subject matter, and to unclear recitations.

It is believed that the present amendments to the claims have resolved the indefiniteness, and that therefore the rejections should be withdrawn.

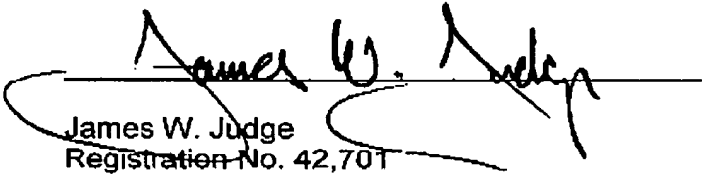
Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 1-18 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that the present amendment meets this requirement.

A response to this Office Action was due by January 27, 2006, and consequently a Petition for Extension of Time, along with a credit-card payment authorization form, is attached hereto. Please consider this Amendment as timely filed.

Accordingly, Applicant courteously urges that this application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is requested. Favorable action by the Examiner at an early date is solicited.

February 27, 2006



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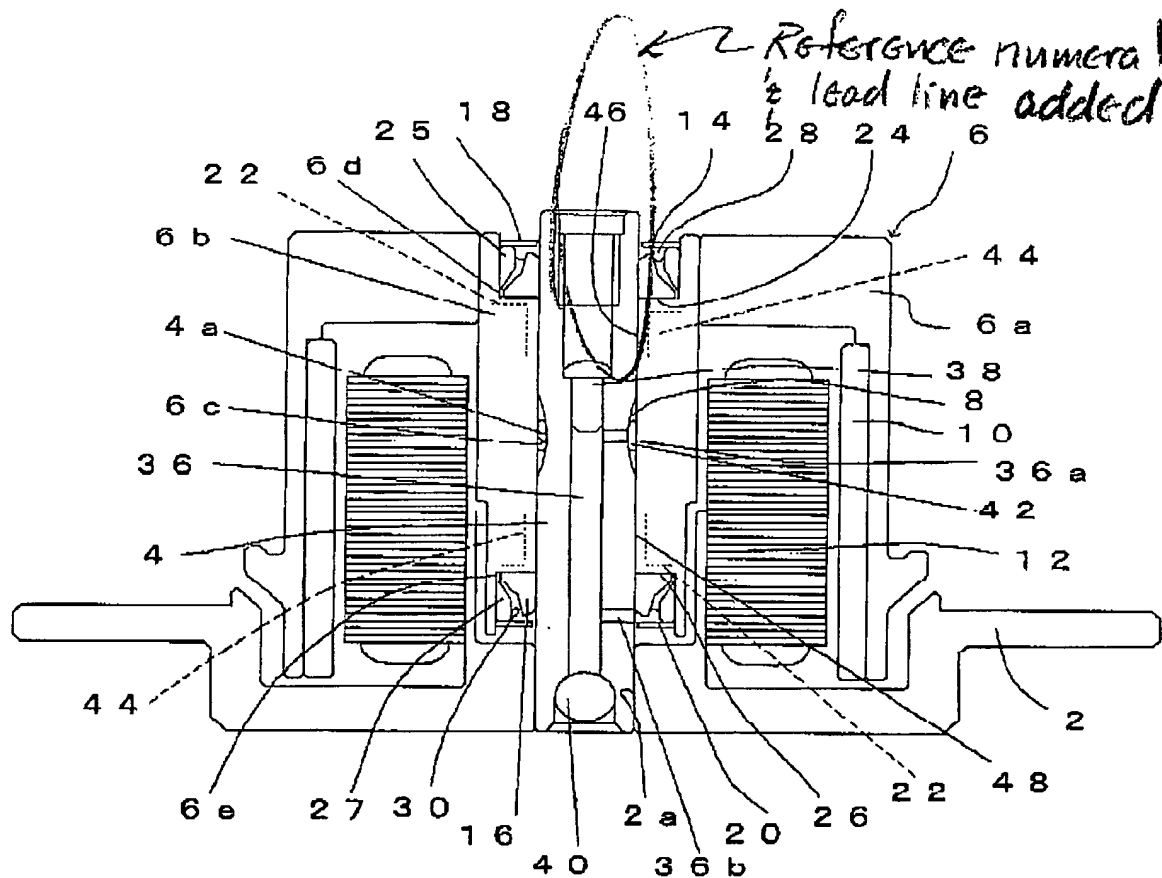
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Amdt. Dated Feb. 27, 2006

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Annotated Sheet Showing Changes



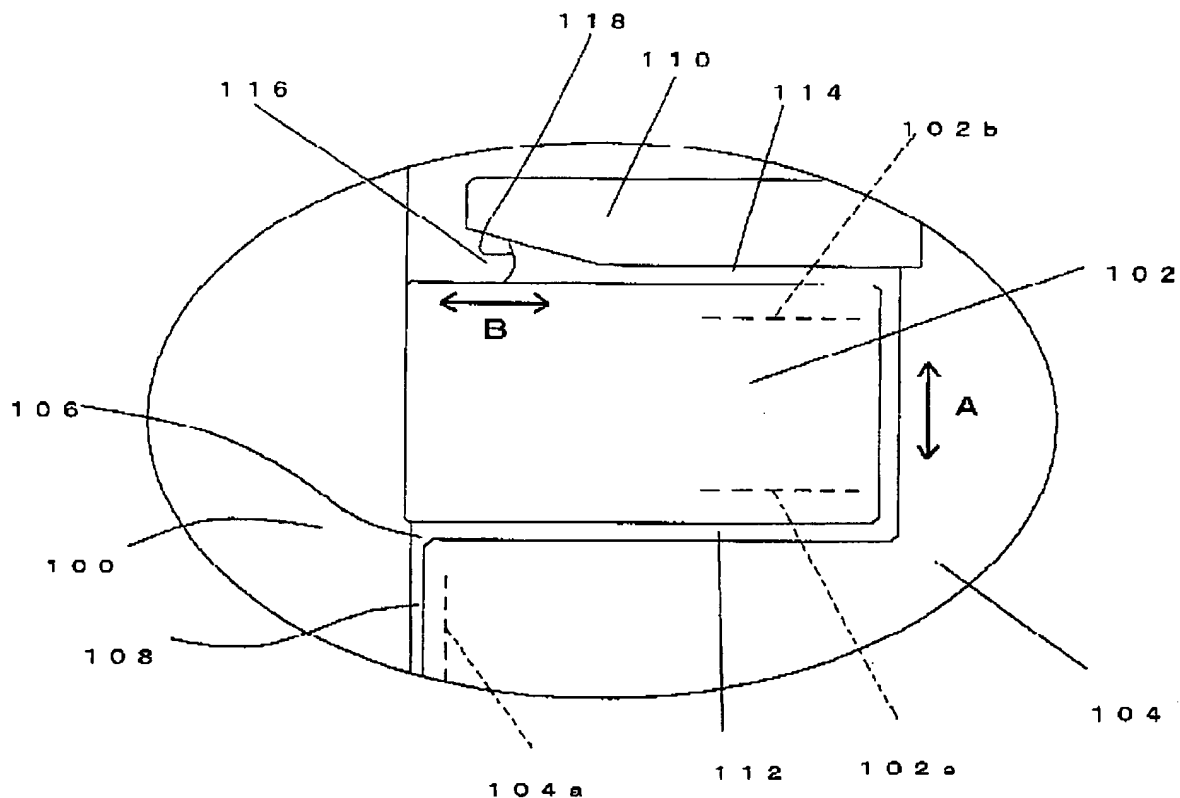
F i g . 1

Appl. No. 10/708,758

Amdt. Dated Feb. 27, 2006

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Annotated Sheet Showing Changes



F i g . 4

Prior art

Legend added